



## Executive Directive 3 (2006)

### GOVERNOR'S WORKING GROUP ON EARLY CHILDHOOD INITIATIVES

Strengthening public and private early childhood programs, especially access to high-quality pre-kindergarten, is a major priority of my administration. Accordingly, it is appropriate that the work of the executive branch on early childhood programs be as seamlessly coordinated as possible.

#### **The Working Group**

I hereby direct my Secretary of Education to establish the Governor's working group on early childhood initiatives. The working group will be chaired by the Secretary of Education. The working group shall include, but shall not be limited to, the Offices of the Secretaries of Education, Finance, Health and Human Resources, and Commerce and Trade; the Governor's Policy Office; the Department of Education; the Virginia Community College System; the Department of Social Services; the Department of Health; the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation, and Substance Abuse Services; the Department of Medical Assistance Services; the Virginia Economic Development Partnership; the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia; and such other agencies as may be designated by the Governor or requested by the chair. The chair shall convene the working group no later than August 31, 2006.

The working group shall meet at the call of the chair and shall form appropriate work teams as directed by the chair. The working group shall report to me regularly on the progress of early childhood initiatives, at a minimum quarterly beginning October 1, 2006.

The working group shall have the following specific responsibilities:

- Coordinate Governor's early childhood initiatives;
- Serve as primary link among Start Strong Council, Virginia Early Childhood Foundation, and existing early childhood programs within the executive branch to minimize duplication and maximize coordination of efforts

- Strengthen partnerships with state and local elected officials and nonprofit and private sectors to build long-term commitment to early childhood education;
- Provide consultation and policy support to Start Strong initiative;
- Identify opportunities to blend and maximize resources and efficiency;
- Recommend cross-cutting policy and funding initiatives to Governor;
- Other activities as may seem appropriate.

I hereby direct all executive branch agencies and entities to cooperate fully with the working group and to provide any needed assistance, data, or other information upon request.

### **The Executive Director**

The chair is hereby authorized to appoint an executive director to assist in coordinating the working group's efforts and to serve as a principal staff person on early childhood initiatives. The executive director will also conduct such duties as may be assigned by the chair.

### **Effective Date of the Executive Directive**

This Executive Directive shall be effective upon its signing and shall remain in force and effect until amended or rescinded by further executive directive or other executive action.

Given under my hand this 10th day of August, 2006.

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Timothy M. Kaine, Governor